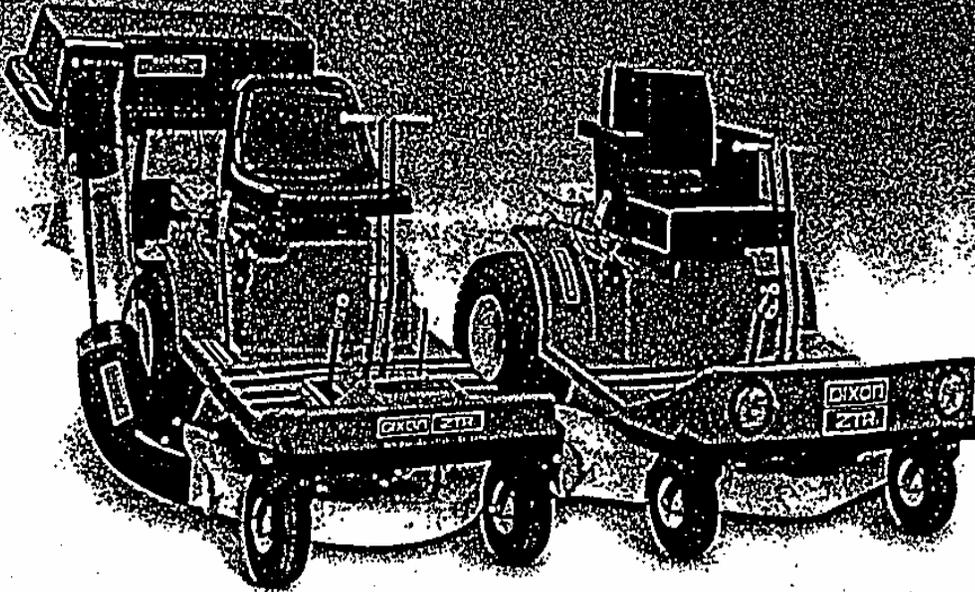


**DIXON**  **N**

# Operator's Manual For ZTR Mowers



## IMPORTANT— READ CAREFULLY

The Dixon ZTR Mower is both **easy** and fun to operate. However, any power mower must be operated properly to be safe. It is not a toy or a recreational vehicle. *Before you start to use the mower, read the operator's manual carefully, and become completely familiar with the controls.* The information in this operator's manual

applies to all Dixon ZTR Mowers. It is also important to refer to the Technical Data Brochure provided for each specific model. Your Dixon dealer will gladly provide a check-out ride, and answer any questions.

See your dealer for warranty service, parts and repairs.

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## ONE-YEAR LIMITED WARRANTY

This lawn mower is warranted for one (1) year from date of delivery against all defects in materials and workmanship. Lawn mowers used for commercial service are warranted for 30 days from date of delivery. (Lawn mowers other than those used only at residence of owner are considered as commercial service.)

Each new mower is warranted against manufacturing defects in material and workmanship under normal use and service. Our obligation, under this warranty, shall be limited to the replacement to the original retail purchaser of any part or parts, which, within the warranty period, shall be shown to be defective due to faulty workmanship or materials at the factory. All parts claimed defective must be returned to the factory for inspection, repair, or replacement with transportation charges prepaid.

This warranty does not apply to damage in transit or damage caused by misuse, negligence or accident, to alterations or repairs done outside the factory or by authorized service dealers, nor does it obligate us to assume any transportation charges in connection with the replacement of parts claimed to be defective.

Our warranty does not apply to the blades or belts on our mowers due to the very nature of the function they perform and to the elements they are exposed to.

The warranty specifically excludes engines and tires which are warranted separately by their respective manufacturers. All claims for defective engines or engine parts must be made in accordance with the engine manufacturer's warranty.

We reserve the right to make changes in design and changes or improvements on our product without imposing any obligation upon ourselves to install the same on products heretofore manufactured.

This warranty is null and void if any parts other than original manufacturer's parts are used. There is no other express warranty.

IMPLIED WARRANTIES, including those of merchantability and fitness for a particular purpose, are limited to one (1) year from purchase and, to the extent permitted by law, any and all implied warranties are excluded.

## SERIAL NUMBERS

The lawn mower has three serial numbers:

1. Mower Number - Located on frame at rear of engine. WHEN REFERRING TO SERIAL NUMBER ON OWNER REGISTRATION, ETC., USE MOWER SERIAL NUMBER LOCATED ON FRAME AT REAR OF ENGINE. (This number will have DM In front of the No.)
- 2.- Transaxle Number - Located on transaxle. (This number will have DT In front of the No.)
3. Engine Number - Located on engine.

## IMPORTANT —SAFE OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

### BEFORE OPERATING MOWER

1. Read these Safety Reminders and engine manufacturer^ operating and maintenance instructions that are furnished with the mower.
2. Discuss proper maintenance with your Dixon dealer, to save money and prevent injury. Consult your dealer before removing any parts or making repairs.
3. Don't allow anyone to operate your Dixon mower without proper instruction. Never allow children to operate this mower.
4. Before mowing, pick up all debris — particularly stones and sharp objects.
5. Before starting engine:
  - (a) Check engine oil and make sure gas cap is in place.
  - (b) Engage parking brake.
  - (c) Disengage mower blades.
  - (d) Make sure control levers are in neutral position.

## OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

6. The revolutionary Dixon mower attracts many admiring neighbors. But when mowing, all persons — especially children — and pets should be cleared from the mowing area.
7. Move, throttle control to "CHOKE" position.
8. To start models with electric starting, simply insert ignition key and turn to "START" position. When the engine starts, release the Ignition key and it will return to the "RUN" position. Move throttle from "CHOKE" to "SLOW" position. To stop the engine, simply turn the key to the "OFF" position. NOTE: Some electric start models are also , equipped with manual start provision. To start engine manually, turn switch to "RUN" and pull the starter rope.
9. Set engine to desired speed by adjusting throttle control. (Suggest set at slow speed during initial operation.)
10. NOTE SAFETY FEATURE: Safety switches stop engine when operator leaves seat while blades are engaged, and engine cannot be restarted when blades are engaged. OPERATOR SHOULD TAKE PRECAUTIONS AND NOT RELY ON SAFETY SWITCHES.
11. This mower Is equipped with a unique transaxle that requires only two drive levers to control braking, turning, direction and speed.

### INITIAL OPERATION

It is recommended that first operation of mower be done at a slow throttle setting with mower blades disengaged until operator is thoroughly familiar with the unit.

You may have a tendency to "over-control" mower at first. Slight movements — fingertip control — are all that's necessary for easy operation.

**TO GO FORWARD** — Release parking brake. From neutral position, gently push both drive levers forward; to increase speed, move levers farther forward.

#### **TO GO BACKWARD**

From neutral position gently pull both drive levers toward you. **TURNING**

Turning is controlled by moving one drive lever slightly forward or rearward of the other. To turn left, move left lever rearward of right lever. To turn "square corners" move lever of desired direction to neutral. To turn on mower's own axis (Zero Radius) reduce speed and move one lever to reverse position and the other to forward position. **BRAKING**

To brake mower, move both levers in direction opposite of travel, release levers to neutral, set parking brake. When stopping on Incline, it may be necessary to hold slight pressure on levers in direction opposite of slope until parking brake is set **ALWAYS SET PARKING BRAKE BEFORE DISMOUNTING. 12. MOWER BLADE OPERATION**

Cutting height is set by positioning the adjusting lever to desired height selection. Pull lever to left until pin clears notch on quadrant. Move lever to desired notch and allow pin to engage. To start mower blades, move engaging mechanism to "ON" position. See Technical Data Brochure for specifics on each model.

### **ALWAYS DISENGAGE BLADE OPERATION BEFORE DISMOUNTING. 13.**

#### **PARKING BRAKE**

The parking brake is hand operated and is located at right hand side of mower. To engage brake, pull lever up and to the rear. To release, move lever forward and down. Always set parking brake before dismounting. Be sure that parking brake is released before moving.

#### **SAFETY REMINDERS**

1. Wear appropriate, safe clothing when mowing — close fitting jeans or slacks and heavy leather or safety shoes with rough soles. Never operate this mower with bare feet or open sandals.
2. When grass is wet or slippery, do not use any riding mower.
3. Always mow at the slowest speed that will cut satisfactorily.
4. Keep hands and feet away from the blade at all times.
5. Keep persons clear of the discharge chute. Do not operate mower unless deflector is in place.
6. When mowing hills or slopes, use extreme caution. Reduce speed, do not make sudden starts, stops, or turns.
7. Always disengage blades before taking the mower across walks or objects that project above the surface.
8. Stay alert for holes, rocks, and roots in the terrain, and other hazards. Keep away from drop-offs.
9. When the mower is not in use, turn the engine off and remove key. Never leave the engine running unattended. Your Dixon mower is equipped with a weight-sensitive switch that kills the engine when operator leaves the seat while blades are engaged.

Test this important safety feature before each time mower is used. This may be done by starting engine, engaging blades and then rising slightly from seat. If engine does not stop, see your dealer for necessary repair.

10. Before adjusting your mower or adding fuel, turn the engine off. Let it cool, and disconnect the spark plug so the engine cannot start by accident. Be sure all moving parts are stopped.
11. Never run the engine indoors; the fumes are dangerous.
12. Before backing your Dixon mower, stop, turn around and look.
13. Handle gasoline with care — it is highly flammable. a. Use approved gasoline container, b. Never remove the fuel cap of, or add gasoline to, a running or hot engine, or an engine that has not been allowed to cool after running. Never fill the tank indoors and always clean up spilled gasoline, c. Never store the mower with gasoline in the tank inside a building where fumes may reach an open flame or spark. Allow the engine to cool before storing in any enclosure.
14. Never lift lawn mower by the body; lift only by the frame.
15. Never carry passengers.
16. Use care when pulling loads or using heavy equipment.
  - a. Use only approved drawbar hitch points, b. Limit loads to those you can safely control, c. Do not turn sharply. Use care when backing.
17. Watch out for traffic when crossing or near roadways.
18. Keep the mower in good operating condition, and keep safety devices in place and working.

19. Keep all nuts, bolts, and screws tight to be sure the mower is in safe working condition.
20. To reduce fire hazard, keep the engine free of grass, leaves, or excessive grease.
21. The mower should be stopped and inspected for damage after striking a foreign object or if it starts vibrating, and any damage should be repaired before restarting and operating the mower.
22. Do not change the engine governor setting or overspeed the engine.
23. When mowing, proceed as follows:
  - a. Mow only in daylight or in good artificial light, b. Never make a cutting height adjustment while the engine is running if the operator must dismount to do so. c. Shut the engine off when removing the grass catcher or unclogging chute, d. Check the blade mounting bolts for proper tightness at frequent intervals.
24. Under normal usage, the grass catcher bag material is subject to deterioration and wear. It should be checked frequently for bag replacement. Replacement bags should be checked to ensure compliance with the original manufacturer's recommendations or specifications.

#### MAINTENANCE

BEFORE PERFORMING ANY MAINTENANCE, SHUT OFF ENGINE, ALLOW TO COOL AND DISCONNECT SPARKPLUG.;

#### ENGINE

For complete engine operating and maintenance information, refer to the engine operating and maintenance, instructions furnished by the engine manufacturer and supplied with each mower.

## BATTERY

Fill with electrolyte solution to lower ring of battery. After initial filling, fluid level may be maintained with distilled water.

Procedure for off-season storage:

1. Charge battery.
2. Disconnect cables from battery terminals. Identify cables so that they may be easily reconnected to the correct terminal. (Disconnect ground cable first and reconnect last.)
3. Clean top of battery and terminals.
4. Do not remove battery from mower.
5. To reactivate, reconnect cables to correct terminals and charge battery if needed.

## BELT ADJUSTMENT

The best tension for a V-belt drive is the lowest tension at which the belts will not slip under normal load condition. Check the tension on a new belt frequently during first hours of operation and every 10-15 hours or monthly thereafter. Too much tension shortens belt and bearing life. Too little tension causes slippage and damages belt. Be sure the belts and pulleys are kept free of foreign material. If belt slippage occurs, tighten it just enough to prevent slippage.

## TRANSAXLE DRIVE BELT

No adjustment necessary; the spring-loaded idler pulley maintains proper belt tension throughout the belt life.

**MOWER DRIVE BELT ADJUSTMENT** See the Technical Data Brochure for belt adjustment procedure on each model.

**REPLACE BELTS WHEN ADJUSTMENT CAN NO LONGER BE MADE SATISFACTORILY OR IF BELTS BECOME WORN.**

**DRIVE CHAIN ADJUSTMENT** This mower is equipped with manually adjusted drive chain tension idlers. One for each chain at the rear of the mower. To adjust drive chains, simply tighten nut on rod P/N1683, until spring P/N 5133 is compressed as shown in the drawing. Inspection of the chains will show the need for adjustment when the spring P/N 5133 is free of tension. Inspect chains after each 10-12 hours of operation.



NEEDS ADJUSTMENT  
PROPER TENSION



Proper lubrication is important for effective roller chain operation. Use high quality lubricating oil or motorcycle chain lube. (Do not use grease or extra heavy oil.) Apply drops of oil to the chain joints every 10-15 hours of operation. **DO NOT LUBRICATE IF OPERATED IN HEAVY DUST OR SAND.**

**FRONT CASTER ASSEMBLY** Each caster assembly has a grease fitting located on the under side of the bearing. For best results, use any good multipurpose grease every 10-15 hours of operation. All other bearings on your mower are sealed and require no lubrication.

## WHEELS AND TIRES

Correct tire pressure is essential to the correct operation of the mower. The correct pressure for the rear drive tires is 8-10 lbs. for size 18 X9.50-8 and 12-14 lbs. for size 16 x 6.50-8 tires. The front tires should be inflated to 20-24 lbs. Lug nuts should be checked periodically to assure they are tight.

**ELECTRICAL SYSTEMS**

Keep all connections clean and tight. Maintain the fluid in the battery at correct level.

**BODY**

The body may be washed with a mild detergent.

**TRANSAXLE**

For adjustment or repair confer, with authorized Dixon dealer service department. Adjustment or repair by other than authorized dealer voids warranty.

**PARTS/SERVICE**

See your dealer for replacement parts, warranty or any service. For further information concerning specific models, see the Technical Data Brochure that is included in owner's packet.

**OWNER INFORMATION**

Date Mower Purchased. \_\_\_\_\_ Mower Model Number \_\_\_\_\_

Mower Purchased from \_\_\_\_\_

dealer name & address

Mower serial number. \_\_\_\_\_ Transaxle Serial Number \_\_\_\_\_

Oil changed this date:

- 1. \_\_\_\_\_
- 2. \_\_\_\_\_
- 3. \_\_\_\_\_

- 4. \_\_\_\_\_
- 5. \_\_\_\_\_
- 6. \_\_\_\_\_

Engine tuned this date:

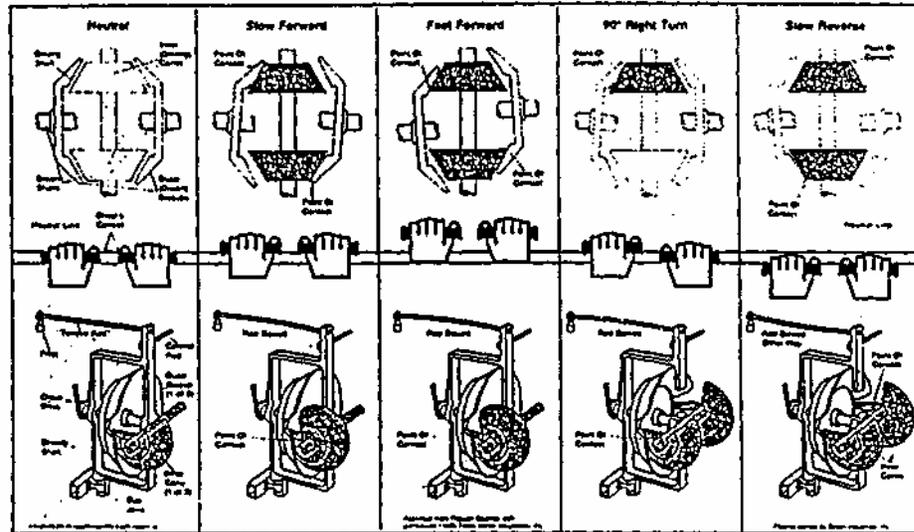
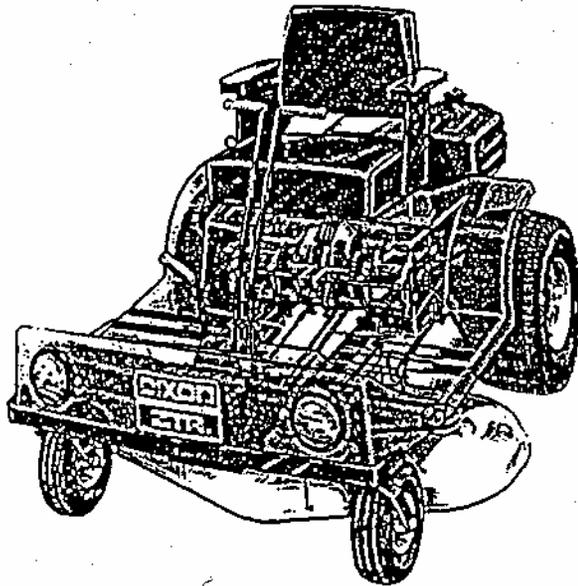
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- 2. \_\_\_\_\_

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- 4. \_\_\_\_\_



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